To The People (To the People)
Late October 2026

Dear All,
We seem to be heading towards the Feast of Christ the King, Advent and then Christmas at a rate of knots!
No doubt you are making your preparations.
I see that the advertisers are already sprucing Christmas without a hint of Jesus anywhere! So let's do what we can to make the invisible visible, to remind the world that God *is with us*, and that there's more meaning to in the adoration of a humble baby than wondering over which supermarket has the tastiest Christmas pudding for sale!

Please note the following items for your diary etc.

My health
Firstly, as many of you will know, I have been diagnosed with a pinched Sciatic nerve. Unfortunately, this means I have limited capacity to walk or stand. I am having treatment, which may be for sometime. Nevertheless, I am able to work with my leg elevated so am doing as much as I can from the office, on the phone or on Zoom. I continue to hope for a speedy recovery!

Brian Newing
It is with deep sadness that I have had to receive Brian Newing's retirement from active ministry. Recovery from a recent stroke is taking its time. He has returned home from hospital. Here is a portion of the letter I wrote to him:

> *Dear Brian,*
> *I write to acknowledge your retirement from the Diocese of Bunbury on 31st October 2026. On doing so I give thanks for the magnificent ministry you have provided across the Southwest and Great Southern of WA over a long period of time. As I understand it, you have served under nine Bishops.*
> *You have served at the Cathedral, The Diocesan Office, and the parishes of Jerramungup, Pinjarra, Kondinnin/Hyden, and Brunswick Junction.*
> *Since 2003 you have served as an invaluable member of the Chaplaincy team at the Bunbury Regional Prison. Your work amongst the inmates and staff is legendary. You have always had a listening ear and words of wisdom for those who have lived on the outskirts of society.*

News on Bishop Matt
Bishop Matt has sent a letter of introduction for you all, which is included in the email.
The Installation will be on February 6th 2027 at 11am at St Boniface Cathedral. Finer details will be sent out closer to the time, but please put this in your diary.

Carolyn Ball
Carolyn Ball has been appointed full-time Chaplain at Georgiana Molloy Anglican School effective 1 January 2027 and will cease to be the Curate in the Parish of Busselton from that date.

Nick Freeland
Nick will be retiring from stipendiary parish ministry at Busselton with effect from 31 March 2027.
He continues as Registrar until the end of January 2027.

Office Staff Changes
Deb Lloyd has taken over from Jenny Duncan as Diocesan Secretary.
Kaara Andrew has taken on the role as Administration Assistant & Property Matters.

Bishop Elect, Matt Brain will be commencing as the Bishop of Bunbury in February 2027. Please do not contact him about Diocesan matters before then as he will be on Leave.

Office Staff Availability
You will be aware that the office is not fully staffed every day of the week. So to help efficiency here is a schedule of the staff's availability. Also, it is best to contact the office before 2:00pm:

Monday to Thursday
Kaara Andrew(Administration Assistant)
Geoff Chadwick (Administrator)
Laura Golding (Payroll)
Debra Lloyd (Diocesan Secretary)
Wanese Maloney (Finance and Insurance)

Monday to Wednesday
Tiffany Della-Vedova (Safe Church)
Nick Freeland (Diocesan Registrar)

Travelling to Perth?
Will anyone be travelling near to Doubleview in the near future? There is an item originally belonging to John Wollaston to be collected for the Diocese. It's not urgent but personalised collection would be helpful. Please contact me for the details.

Christmas Services
You might like to visit the following link to Church of England Christmas Services found in "Times and Seasons". I highly recommend these as a resource. The Crib service and Christingle service ae especially appropriate for LLMs to use when an ordained person is not available.

https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/churchs-year/times-and-seasons-0

Christmas Office Closure
The Diocesan Office will be closed from 24/12/2026 until 5/1/2027.

Thank you for all the ministry that you do.

Blessings,



Geoff.

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