




A VISION FOR THE DIOCESE OF TASMANIA 2022



CHALLENGE + OPPORTUNITY

Ephesians 1:15-23




¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

God's highest calling to us is to know him, to love him and to worship him through his Son Jesus, in the power of his Spirit. Paul prays here for spiritual enlightenment so that knowing him we might also know the hope to which he has called us; the riches of his inheritance; and his measureless power for living. We trust him because he is the head of his church, and all things are under his power and authority.

The challenges for the Diocese of Tasmania are great: rising cynical secularism, declining church attendance, lack of effectiveness in making disciples, and the difficulty of rural ministry. But the power of God is greater, and he has blessed us with every blessing in Christ. He has given us many resources: enthusiastic lay people, a strong clergy team, and a great desire for change and growth among our people. We have a great gospel to proclaim, and we know that it has power to change lives and transform communities.

This document outlines a Vision for the future, based on Convictions that we know to be true. It puts forward a Mission for us to pursue and supplies some expectations for us to work towards, and by which we can measure our progress. It also suggests some Strategies to move us closer to our Vision.

I invite you to join me in praying for us to know Him better and for this Vision to become a reality.



Bishop Richard

CONVICTIONS

Jesus Christ is the head of the Church ...

We are confident because we know that God is working out his sovereign purposes, and that his church will prevail because Jesus is its Lord and Head. We respond in humble service to his Lordship in the power of his Spirit.

And He has sent us to make Disciples ...

Propelled by God's love, the purpose of the Church is to go into all the world and to make disciples of Jesus, baptising and teaching them to obey everything that Jesus commanded. There are many good things we could do, but this is our primary task and the centre of all of our activity.

By Word, Prayer and Service ...

God builds his church by preaching the Word, and through the prayers of his people, supported by their loving service of the world. Spiritual vitality is found in the biblical gospel, and is expressed in our ministry of Word, sacraments and prayer, and through acts of service.

Supported by fruitful godly Leaders ...

God uses faithful people who have a mission heart to lead his church into growth. Therefore, we need gifted clergy and lay leaders to serve in and through our churches.

God being our provider, and us stewards of his gifts.

God owns all the resources for ministry in Tasmania and is able to bless and resource the ministry to which we are called. We need to be good stewards of these resources, unlocking and deploying them for His service.

A church for
Tasmania,
making disciples of
Jesus.

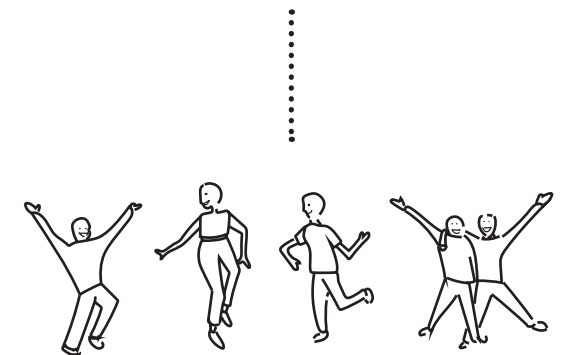
OUR VISION





OUR MISSION

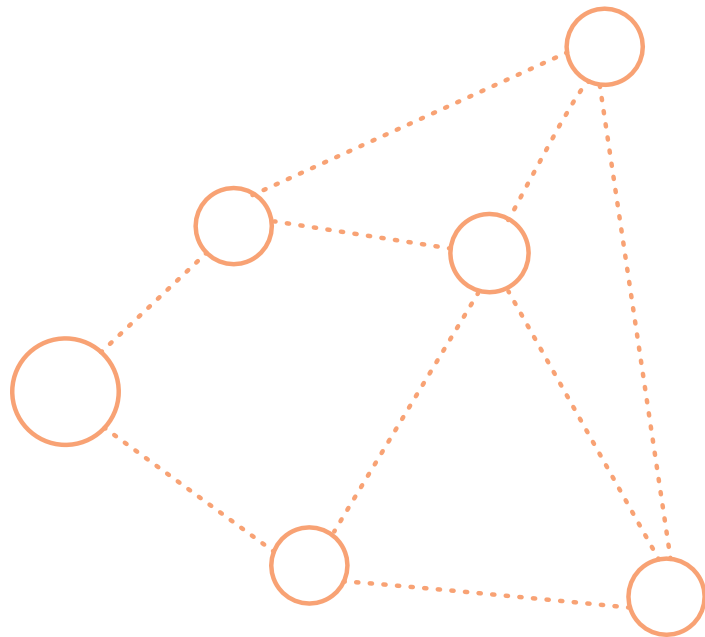
1. Build a network of confident flourishing parish centres.
2. Develop partnerships with Anglican agencies and schools.
3. Grow missional chaplaincy in hospitals, aged-care facilities, and jails.
4. Be a people of blessing to our communities.



1

Build a network of confident flourishing parish centres

We will concentrate on developing parishes in our main centres that are strong, healthy, and growing, rather than simply maintaining Sunday worship in as many places as possible. We will build resilient rural ministries, with appropriate models of disciple-making. We will plant new churches as we are able.



OUR EXPECTATIONS:

Active disciple-making pathways

Each parish will have an executable plan for providing a clear pathway for people of every age and stage of life to become disciples of Jesus, who make disciples for Jesus. It will have clear strategies to engage with people of little faith or none, to evangelise them, to establish new Christians in the faith, and to equip them for our mission of making disciples.

Active ministry to young people and families

Each parish will prioritise effective ways to minister to young people and families, with making disciples their chief aim, and will support the work of Anglican Camping Tasmania.

Transformative public worship aimed at discipling

Each worship service, regardless of style, will be focussed on the glory of the Lord Jesus, and aimed at growing our discipleship.

A transparent culture of safety for all

The safety of all, especially children and vulnerable people, will be embedded in our leadership, governance and culture.

Avenues of intentional prayer

Every parish will have a variety of prayer opportunities on Sundays and through the week, and include an intentional prayer strategy that is linked to disciple-making.

A commitment to world mission

Our parishes will not only care that the gospel goes forward in our local communities, but also in the rest of the world, by supporting mission agencies that are focussed on the gospel.

Leadership from well-trained biblically orthodox clergy

All the clergy in the Diocese will have a lively and growing relationship with Jesus and be convinced of the Bible's centrality, with a commitment to preaching and teaching it. Rectors will be highly skilled leaders of change, mission, and disciple-making ministries. They will be committed to ongoing personal and professional development, and review.

2

Develop partnerships with Anglican agencies and schools

We will develop partnerships with Anglicare, our Anglican Schools (Launceston Church Grammar School, The Hutchins School and St Michael's Collegiate), and our mission agencies (Bush Church Aid, Anglican Board of Mission and the Church Missionary Society) to enhance and strengthen our disciple-making purpose.

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- Parishes will support, promote, and pray for the work of Anglicare.
- The Diocese will continue to explore alignment between the work of Anglicare and the Diocesan Vision.
- Parishes will support, encourage, and pray for our Schools.
- The Diocese will work with the schools to develop a “shared understanding of Anglican education” in Tasmania.
- Parishes will support, encourage, and pray for the work of the mission agencies.
- The Diocese will work with the mission agencies to equip parishes for local and global mission.

3

Grow missional chaplaincy in hospitals, aged-care facilities, and jails

We will develop our chaplaincy models to assist our disciple-making purpose.

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- The Diocese will support the work of Clarendon, Anglican Health and Welfare, and Glenview.
- Together we will grow the number of chaplaincy opportunities in the state.
- We will commit to the professional development of our chaplains.
- We will develop relationships between chaplains and parishes.

4

Be a people of blessing to our communities

We will humbly take our place as community members alongside our neighbours, sharing God's blessings with others.

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- We will explore ways in which we can bless the communities in which we live and work.
- We will make thoughtful contributions to Tasmanian community life.

Love God, Love your Neighbour

Jesus said:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

Make Disciples

Jesus said:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20

VISION PRAYER

Glorious Father, God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Give to us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation,
so that we may know you better.

Enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
that we may know the hope to which you have called us,
the riches of Christ’s glorious inheritance in your holy people,
and your incomparably great power for us who believe.

Please make us to be a church for Tasmania,
to bless those around us,

that Christ may be known and glorified through us.

Please help us to make disciples of Jesus in all that we do
through confident flourishing parishes,

partnerships with Anglican agencies and schools,
missional chaplaincy,

and by being a people of blessing in our communities.

We ask this for the Glory of the Lord Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray.

Amen



ANGLICAN
DIOCESE OF
TASMANIA