TASMANANIAN A Church for Tasmania, making disciples of Jesus.



DIOCESAN PRAYER MEETING

On Sunday 5th April, over 150 people joined Bishop Richard online to pray for our nation and world during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thoughtful prayers were led by various people around our Diocese.

Let's Pray Together

The next prayer meeting is: Sunday 3rd May, from 4 to 5pm.

The meeting is hosted on Zoom. Please click this URL to join: https://zoom.us/j/97117784273

Or join by phone: Dial: +61 3 7018 2005 Webinar ID: 97 117 784 273

MORNING PRAYER SERVICE

At present a service of <u>Morning Prayer</u> is available every Sunday on the Diocesan website <u>www.anglicantas.org.au</u>.

People who do not have internet access can phone in to the service from 8.50am. Phone: **7018 2005.** Enter meeting ID: **931 246 804.** Victory song played and sung by musicians from St Mark's Bellerive in their homes

UPDATE FROM BISHOP RICHARD

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are living in very challenging times, as the Coronavirus affects just about everything to do with our normal lives. Times of great change and upheaval give us the opportunity to draw near to God. Psalm 46 tells us that he is "our strength and refuge, our present help in trouble" and that because of that we don't have to fear. 1 Peter 1 reminds us that trials come, so that the proven genuineness of our faith may result in praise to God. Here is a time the Anglican community in Tasmania can shine: shine our firm hope in the resurrection, shine our love for our communities, and shine our commitment to God's church, so that ultimately God is praised and glorified.

We have not stopped our mission to be a church for Tasmania, making disciples of Jesus in these days. The witness of the people of God to the good news of Jesus continues. I am so heartened by the love and creativity I am seeing in our church communities at this time. Caring for congregations and those in need in our communities and continuing to proclaim Christ, and in the midst of it all praying that God's kingdom would come. Let us not descend into fear but continue to trust in the Lord and his goodness for us. Our hope is beyond the lifting of isolation restrictions or our next holiday, but firmly in the Lord of life.

With warm wishes in Christ,

Richard



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

By Sonya de Lacey, Diocesan Communications Officer

The past month has been like no other! Constant and rapid change became the order of the day as our government and community responded to COVID19.

Our clergy tackled the changing landscape with a positive attitude. They adapted quickly ensuring people remained connected.

Some rectors now prepare their sermons for printing and hand deliver/ post them to their parishioners. Others have had to learn about sound, lighting and speaking to camera.

Most people have been pushed out of their comfort zone into new areas, with great results.

The Diocesan website

(www.anglicantas.org.au) provides a choice of four different online services. People who do not have internet access can phone in to the service of Morning Prayer. See page 4 for details. Filming is one task, but the hidden hours spent editing the footage to provide a service is another! Just ask Bishop Richard or The Dean.

Some rectors bravely embrace Facebook Live (eg. <u>Devonport Anglican</u> and <u>Lindisfarne Anglican</u>), while Facebook Messenger was used for the first time on Easter Day to connect people on Flinders Island. The breadth of initiative has been outstanding.

Have you seen: St Clement's catchy invitation; Huon Anglican's warm



<u>welcome</u>; Circular Head's <u>LEGO</u> Club; or St Mark's Bellerive cleverly choreographed Easter <u>song</u>?

Families in Wynyard were encouraged to participate in a 'group' craft activity, the result of which can now be seen in the church foyer.

King Island residents have joined Revd Chris Thiele on local radio each Sunday morning for church, while Revd Celia Hooker shares a thought for the day on air in the Derwent Valley. And the feedback is very positive.

A weekly discipleship time for the whole family, <u>Disciples in the Shed</u>, live streams from the parish of Sorrel, Richmond, Tasman.

And, this is only a snapshot of all that is happening! Please join me in giving thanks to God for the fabulous men and women across our Diocese whose dedication and actions have offset the challenges of COVID19 with success.







IN HER WORDS Panpan's Story

Panpan about to be baptised by Revd Dr Sam Gough

I come from China. I am studying at UTAS. It's here I was invited to learn about Jesus. I was curious and challenged by the claims of the Bible.

During holidays, I returned home to my old routines, without a thought or care for God.

One day, I bumped into an old friend. I hadn't seen her for many years. She revealed she'd become a Christian while at university in Korea. My friend encouraged me to keep investigating. Out of the one billion people in China, I believe God deliberately led me to her. The Lord was using her to draw me back to Himself. So, I decided to turn to God and follow Jesus.

I am now a part of the university ministry at Wellspring and was baptised in March this year.

"Praise God that one day I will return home with a degree and the gospel!"

MEANINGFUL VOLUNTEERING

By Miriam Palmer, Anglicare Tasmania

Margaret Savage (Left) with Jill Finch



Anglicare values the contribution of volunteers and has sponsored a major award to celebrate their efforts.

The Tasmanian Volunteering Awards 2020 will be announced during May. Anglicare has sponsored the Community Care and Health Volunteer Award.

"We can all contribute to the wellbeing of our community and the people who live there," said Anglicare CEO Chris Jones. "Volunteering brings Tasmanians together to build on local strengths, address challenges, offer encouragement and create opportunities for people to feel part of something bigger than themselves".

Jill Finch, a parishioner at St Luke's Taroona, served as a volunteer at Anglicare for the past five years, assisting people to apply for loans through the <u>No Interest Loans Scheme</u> (NILS).

"I have met some courageous people who are battling big odds," said Jill. She took on the role after retiring from her job as a community pharmacist. Jill helped people to work through their



SHOW HOPE Revd Dr Sam Gough, University Pastor, Wellspring

International students are in dire circumstances. Most of them are down to their last 1-3 weeks of savings. The Coronavirus pandemic has caused them to lose their casual jobs. Soon, many students will not have enough money for food.

Sadly, these students fall between the cracks of the welfare services.

God calls us to be Good Samaritans to our neighbours.

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." (Matthew 22:37-39) "We can all contribute to the wellbeing of our community and the people who live there"

online applications, following support provided by Anglicare's financial counsellors.

During her time as a volunteer Jill linked about 60 people each year to a NILS loan. She recently stepped down from the role and was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

"I grew through the experience of volunteering and learned so much about Anglicare and all the work it does," said Jill. "I am grateful to have had the opportunity to have met so many wonderful staff and clients."

If you would like to step into Jill's role, or volunteer with Anglicare in other ways, please contact Margaret Savage, Anglicare's parish community development worker, by email <u>m.savage@anglicare-tas.org.au</u> or call 0409 843 756.

"And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself"

Wellspring Anglican Church is on mission to show hope to those far from home.

They are:

- seeking donations to purchase food vouchers.
- suggesting international students be paid to do odd jobs in the garden.
- encouraging people with a spare bedroom to offer it free of charge for 2-3 months.
- inviting people to join a roster to serve free curries to 50+ students at Chillies Indian Restaurant (Sandy Bay)
 - 6:30pm-7:30pm Thursdays.

If you are interested in supporting this mission, please email: showhope@wellspring.org.au

NEWS



CONNECT, EXPLORE & GROW

Nick Overton, St Clement's Kingston

On Sunday 1st March, a new 4:30pm service was launched at St Clements, Kingston.

It has been great to welcome new people, and have others serving in new ways.

Our vision is to be a place where everyone is welcome to connect, explore and grow. A place that cultivates connection and belonging through hospitality. A place where people can explore doubts and questions about faith, meaning and purpose. And a place where people can grow in faith and service as they follow Jesus. We are excited to partner with the Lord in this new venture for the growth of his kingdom.

ORDINATION & CELEBRATION SERVICE



ON THE ROAD AGAIN



"In early March, I attended my third registry roadshow. They are a great forum to be brought up to speed with the latest information from the registry. I personally love that it is a casual and personal format, with cheese and snacks," said Revd Phil Coghlan, Rector of Burnie Parish.

Attending his first roadshow, Joe Armstrong (All Saints Network, Launceston) said, "Having access to very key people who have kindly and specifically allocated this time for exactly this purpose was great".

Shirley Gillam from Devonport Parish enjoyed the roadshow saying, "It was worth going again because there were different topics presented this time".

"It was a great time of being together, celebrating our common purpose in Christ and learning to fine-tune our understanding of Good Governance, Safe Church Communities, The Portal (to heaven? No, that's not what it was!), and Heritage Properties".

READ FULL STORY>

Saturday 29th February saw many of us gather to witness the ordination of three Deacons and three Priests and to celebrate all that God has been doing across our Diocese.

With a boat, two young helpers, a fishing net and plenty of fish (photos <u>here</u>), Bishop Richard preached from Luke 5:1-11 about our role to be fishers of people.

- Meet our Deacons video here.
- Meet our Priests video here.
- Celebrating 12 months
 PowerPoint <u>here</u>.
- (In the headings, click on 'Slide Show', then click 'From Beginning')

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF TASMANIA

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