



# The Murray Anglican

TMA Winter 2016



## Bishop Calls For A Renewed Common Life In The Diocese

The way forward for the Diocese in being inspired and invigorated with a 'renewed common life', was the major theme of the Diocesan Synod, held at Woodcroft College at Morphett Vale on May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The Synod chaired by the Administrator, Fr. Peter Carlsson was also an occasion for the commissioning of the Reverend Paul Monash as a 'mission priest' for the Pastoral District of the Southern Suburbs.

As well, the preliminary results of a property audit were presented to

Synod, along with a presentation relating to the responsibilities of work, health and safety in the Diocese and in its parishes and pastoral districts.

There were concerns raised about effects of past child sexual abuse, on revelations of sexual abuse in the Royal Commission and what action the Diocese should do to combat domestic violence.

The results of the Diocesan Communications Strategy Report were also presented along with an initial report of "The Murray Progress"

presentations across the Diocese, with further discussion.

Several pieces of legislation were also moved by the Chancellor, Robert Tong concerning an ordinance relating to professional standards within the Church and an ordinance relating to professional standards of the Bishop. There were also three matters related to holy orders, long service leave for clergy and an amendment to the New South Wales Provincial Synod Constitution. On the passing of these measures, the President, Fr. Peter Carlsson declared that the measures



would not come into effect until they had been confirmed at a subsequent call of Synod, due to the Bishop's inability to be present, after an urgent trip to England for family reasons.

In his presidential address, read at the concluding Synod Eucharist by the Headmaster of Woodcroft College, Mark Porter; the Bishop said he had chosen deliberately that it be a votive Eucharist of the Holy Spirit.

"The Spirit is the gift of God to enliven and inspire his holy people – the Body of Christ – for their common life and witness. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to impart the character of God. Our prayer at this Eucharist is that, very particularly, we might be inspired and invigorated for a renewed common life. It is especially appropriate in this context, that Paul Monash be licensed to a new and pioneering ministry as a mission priest in the pastoral district of the southern suburbs."

Bishop John believed that on the other hand, the Diocese was seemingly struck with a structure and a set of understandings about what was needed or essential to be the Church, which didn't allow flexibility in today's cultures.

"Paul Monash's appointment, to pioneer different ways of engaging with people that the Good News might be proclaimed is a start."

"We need fluidity in the ways in which we co-operate with the Spirit in the proclamation of the Good News – that is an appropriate way in which we have to take seriously the cultures of which we are a part. But we also need a form or structure....we have to have both for many reasons, not the least that Paul needs a stipend." He said.

"The Church is God's continuing gift to the world and we must order and organise ourselves in such a way that the ministry and mission of Christ continues. And, of course, this is the work of the Spirit."

Bishop John said our concern as disciples of Jesus must also be for those who are excluded from communities.

"They are so often the very people with whom our Lord and Saviour spent so much time. You can list them as well as I can ... the refugee, the unborn child, the victim of violence and abuse, the poor, those entrapped in slavery, the stigmatised especially the mentally ill and the person dependent on drugs and alcohol."

"Our current calling as the synod of this local church of Jesus Christ is to similarly form, shape and live in the community as we remain faithful to our vocation as we bear witness to the Father's love."

As part of the vision, it was announced that a special call of Synod in November would consider the ordination of women as Deacons, along with a restructure of the Diocese.

In a written statement read by Diocesan Council member, Ruth Daws; Bishop Ford outlined the role of the Deacon and its relevance in the early Church.

"They form the first of three orders in the threefold ministry of bishop, priest and deacon that the Church has inherited from the time of the Apostles. Holy Order is a single ministry in three orders and 'the diaconate' is distinctive of the ministry as a whole".

"Unlike the priesthood (and episcopate) for which different factors may be relevant, both women and men originally served in the diaconate. In discussing the opening of the distinctive diaconate to women, it can be argued that is a return to the earlier practice, that the arguments surrounding the ordination of women to the priesthood/episcopate do not apply and that no questions of 'sacramental assurance' arise in the case of the ministry of deacons".

One of the two presenters of "The Murray Progress", Mark Porter said the place and role of women in the ordained ministry of the Diocese was one of the issues raised.

Also highlighted was the need for a new vision, in needing to change, in how we use our resources to minister to the individual in his or her situation, not forgetting the faithful, and how rural people feel that it is important to remain independent and mutually supportive.

In further discussion at Synod, other ideas included a concrete plan for the Diocese to move forward, a desire to promote the Christian message in all forms of the media including an interactive discussion on the diocesan website, to build on what we are

already doing and how we talk about faith, in skilling people to share their faith with other people and not retreating into silence.

Earlier, the Diocesan Communications Strategy Report which looked at all facets of communications on a diocesan and Parish level was presented. The report recommended an overhaul of the diocesan website which includes links to all Parishes and Pastoral Districts. Synod was informed that Diocesan Council had approved "East Gippsland Design", which had set up the Diocese of Gippsland website to proceed with a new website for The Murray. The Murray Anglican was also seen as an important publication in providing up to date articles relevant to the Diocese and making it colourful and interesting to read. Other social forms of media including Facebook also made up an important part of the communications framework for the Diocese.

There were several motions discussed, presented by Synod representatives. The first from Jill Herve was regarding the effect that past child abuse within the Anglican Church has had on reducing congregations and in particular in turning the younger generation away from the Church. The second from Lee Lyons moved that the Synod be wholly supportive of all



survivors of abuse of any kind, especially those who have suffered in areas of life involving the community of faith and that the every parish, pastoral district or any other grouping within the Diocese be a place where everyone can feel welcome and safe. The third again from Lee Lyons moved that the Synod abhors all acts of domestic violence and that the Diocese actively seeks to minister the healing love of God in these situations. All motions were passed.

The Synod was also graced by the presence of Bishop Tim Harris from the Diocese of Adelaide and members of the Anglican-Lutheran International Coordinating Committee.

There were various people thanked at

the Synod; Dr Ken Pidgeon for his 18 years representing the Diocese on the Leigh Trust, to Bob Plummer for setting up the Integrated Accounting System for the Diocese over the past 18 months and to Fr Alex Bainton, Fr Bob Hupfeld and Fr George Kirreh for their priestly ministry in the Diocese and for their representation on Diocesan Council.

Fr Peter Carlsson was also acknowledged for his role in chairing the Synod, along with the Registrar, Donna Jones and Woodcroft College for once again hosting the Synod.

*The Church is God's continuing  
gift to the world.*

## Clergy Moves

Fr Dirk Van Dissel has announced he will retire on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Fr Dirk has spent almost all but four years of his ministry in the Diocese of The Murray. He began his ministry in the Diocese of Melbourne in 1974, and then was appointed as Priest in Charge of Keith in 1978 and subsequently Rector a year later. He became Rector of St Francis of Assisi at Christies Beach in 1983. He has served in a number of capacities in the Diocese including being the Dean between 2006 and 2009 and again from 2011. He represented the Diocese on General Synod between 2007 and 2010. Fr Dirk will go on long service leave and with other holiday leave on July 31<sup>st</sup>. Bishop John says Fr Dirk's ministry will be remembered fondly by many, and that there will be other opportunities to record our thanks to Fr Dirk.

Fr George Kirreh has been appointed to the Parish of St Luke's, Whitmore Square in the Diocese of Adelaide. Fr George was appointed to the Parish of the Murraylands in 2011 and took up his new posting in May. Bishop John says the Diocese is immensely grateful to Fr George for all he has done to strengthen and build up congregations in and around Murray Bridge. Fr George also served on Diocesan Council.

Fr Thomas Karamakuzhiyl has become the Parish Priest at Mount Barker. The Reverend Thomas has been until prior to the appointment the Ministry District Priest for Lower Yorke Peninsula based at Minlaton. He was priested in India in 1997. He was licenced at Christ the King on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

# Why on Earth Morphett Vale?

My good friend Brian said, "Morphett Vale, where on earth is that and why do you have to go there" and continued, "why leave your friends, comfort and a four year full scholarship for your son and part of your family? Think seriously." I simply smiled four months ago. I seriously believe it is no accident I am here but it was in the providence of God. Jesus walked about 25km south from Capernaum to an unknown village called Nain for a reason (Luke 7.11). Each is placed to worship or lead in a Parish for a reason. It is divine providence.

I believe in the great Commission. In my experience, not all are called to be priests or missionaries, but all Christians are invited to have a direct and complete involvement in the Commission. One could either go down into the well or holds the rope for those going down. Either way there are going to be scars on the hands. If a Christian has got no scars it speaks volumes of his faith journey. At the age of sixteen I came to know Jesus Christ and at nineteen with affirmation and encouragements I was sure of my call to priesthood. I needed to go down into the well. I was directed to the Anglican Church; it has been a joy journey thus far.

By His grace I ministered as Anglican

Vicar in England, Malaysia, and director of the diocesan Youth Ministry in New Zealand. In 2007 I moved to Australia. It is funny, after a visit to Murray Bridge in January 2015, I rejected the offer politely. Look! God had other plans for me. I was invited again early this year. My church and I began to pray about it. Here I am now in Morphett Vale. I am just another priest with very few gifts and many shortcomings. I am aware with my brother clergy that contributing to an authentic faith community is never simple or easy. But for me the Gospel daily challenges us. I am glad to serve under Bishop John's leadership.

What drives me is the Church has been placed under a solemn and irrevocable obligation to make disciples of all cultures. It is not a great thing when a Church gets involved in evangelism. It is a pathetic blasphemous thing when they are not. We are supposed to give our life to missions until every valley and mountain bears the banner of Christ.

Sadly we have too many maintenance ministries in Anglican Churches. Many are afraid to work with the Youth. We need to move into mission and encourage new pastoral initiatives that enable the parish and all its members to seek, welcome and integrate new people into the church. This will call

for sacrifices and risk takings. Without this desire, most of our Anglican parishes may continue to decline. The Gospel, gifts and Prayer must be creatively exercised. Come; let us pray for the Holy Spirit to inspire the laity and clergy to bring about a "spiritual resurrection" in our churches.

Finally, God has blessed me with a caring Christian family. When I asked my daughter Maria, studying at a university in Perth, son Ian in Yr.9 and wife what do you think if Papa feels called to move to Adelaide, all of them said go where God calls you. My son said, dad I will follow you. Even now I tell my kids to consider full-time ministry. I think as parents, we should be looking at our sons and daughters and praying over them in the night saying, "Oh God, take my kids. Take him. Use her, on the field for the cause of Christ."

I am discovering the beautiful Southern district. It is blessed with a good leadership team and with cooperation, compassion, listening, trust and shared goals. With your prayers we pray to build a healthy church. Keep me in your prayers.

*Rev Paul Monash*

## Locum Parish Priest at Victor Harbor



On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April, Bishop John Ford presided at the Parish Service and Licensed Reverend Ian Young as Locum Parish Priest at St Augustine's Victor Harbor for the next 12 months.

Deacon Bruce Hicks, and the congregation of St Christopher's, Mt Compass joined in the service, and Ian and his wife Jan were welcomed by parishioners over lunch.

Although 'retired' to Encounter Bay, Ian has been ministering in and around the Victor Harbor and Southern Vales areas over the last 2 years.

# A New Priest for Mount Barker

On 11<sup>th</sup> June, the Feast Day of St Barnabas, the Mt Barker Parish welcomed their new priest, Fr Thomas Karamakuzhiyil.

More than 100 people attended the licensing. This included clergy from The Murray, the Adelaide Diocese and interstate and around 25 people from Fr Thomas's previous parish made the trip from Minlaton to Mt Barker.

Invited guests included The Honourable Mark Goldsworthy, Member for Kavel, Fr Richard Morris from Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, Pastor Robert Finster from St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Reverend Juleen Villis from the Mt Barker Uniting Church, Reverend Matt Carratt from Echunga Uniting Church representing Ministers Fellowship, Mr Kevin Kleeman from Adelaide Hills Funerals and Mr Curtis Richards from ac.care.



*..... be among us as a man who studies the Scriptures,  
proclaims the Word and teaches the faith.*

The Venerable Doctor Peter Carlsson, Administrator of the Diocese, officiated. The Very Reverend Dirk van Dissel, Dean of The Murray, read the licence and gave the homily, the Mt Barker Wardens presented Fr Thomas to the Administrator and various members of the parish presented the symbols of Baptism, the Word, Healing and Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Speeches of welcome were given on behalf of the parish and Ministers Fellowship.

The people of the Parish are looking forward to walking with Fr Thomas on their Christian pilgrimage.

*Photos courtesy Ron Watson, Edithburgh.*



# Retirement for Reverend Canon Alex Bainton



*Photo: Courtesy Mary McCleave*

*On Sunday 10 April, over 100 people attended the farewell service for the Rector of the Anglican Parish of Victor Harbor. The Reverend Canon Alex Bainton had served 40 years in ministry, his last appointment being for 12 years as Rector to the Victor Harbor Parish which includes St Augustine's in Burke Street and St Christopher's in Mt Compass.*

*A farewell luncheon followed the 10am Service and many kind and appreciative thoughts were expressed by parishioners, Clergy and friends to Alex and his wife Cheryl.*

*Alex and Cheryl will remain in the area enjoying their retirement house in Encounter Bay.*

I went to St Barnabas Theological College for three years at Belair, and then was ordained deacon in 1976, and priest in 1977 at St Peters Cathedral, Adelaide.

My first few years were in the parish of Toorak Gardens; Cheryl and I were newly marrieds then, and Nicholas was born in this time.

My second parish was at Edwardstown-Ascot Park, after which we went to Kangaroo Island, where I was its first rector for their four churches: Kingscote, Parndana, Penneshaw, and Karatta, with later services at American River and Gosse. Plenty of travelling - but I was a young man then! Jessica was born in our time there. Cheryl had childhood years living on the island, so it was like going home for her.

Back again to the mainland again in due course, and this time to St. Swithuns, Morphettville. This was close to where my father lived which was good. While there I started an afterschool Kid's Club. Timothy was born while we were there.

Off then into another diocese - The Murray - to be the rector of the parish of Strathalbyn with its four churches - Strath, Milang, Meadows, and Langhorne Creek, where I ministered for 12 years; during this time I was appointed a Rural Dean and made a canon by Bishop G. Walden. In this time I supported the development of a local Christian school.

After Strathalbyn we went to Aberfoyle Park-Clarendon. Ministry to people in local residential care facilities was an important part of my ministry there.

Following this I was invited to be the rector of the Parish of Victor Harbor, with its two churches, St Augustine's, Victor Harbor, and St Christopher's, Mt Compass, where I ministered for twelve years. In this parish I encouraged the development of home groups, and lay ministry.

In The Murray Diocese I have had the privilege of serving on Diocesan Council and representing the diocese at many of the Synods of the Diocese of Willochra. I have also ministered during the episcopacy of the four bishops of the Murray. And in each part of my ministry I have participated in and enjoyed the local ministers' fraternal.

Throughout my ministry I have always felt it was very important to endeavour to preach and teach from the Scriptures, and a desire to see people come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour, and to encourage believers to grow. Some authors who have in particular been helpful to me in this respect are : John Stott, J.C. Ryle, Dr Martin Lloyd-Jones, Geoffrey Bingham, and David Pawson.

I thank God for his mercy for the privilege of ministry over 40 years and his faithfulness to me until I retired at age 67; for the loving support of Cheryl and our family; and for the many friendships made along the way. "Surely goodness and mercy" has followed me!

This is now a "new chapter", and I am trusting God for it.

*Fr Alex Bainton*

# Fr Bob Hupfeld – Into Retirement

My life in ministry over 30 years has been lots of fun. The joy parishioners and townfolk have brought me and my wife continues now into retirement. Memories of them bolster and uplift ageing bodies and minds.

We have enjoyed ministry in Victoria's North East, with its High Plains and mountains, towns and isolated regions and trout-filled streams. Visiting parishioners across this landscape was always a joyous experience. For a time in South Australia we became a little depressed to see Lake Alexandrina and the Murray River thirsting for life-giving waters.

The Diocese of The Murray was depressed when we first arrived in Strathalbyn from Bright/Mt Beauty; the landscape and the church both drying up. However, the joy of ministry and fun of sharing in the lives of parishioners and residents sustained us in the lean years.

The Lake and River have recovered. The Diocese is in recovery mode. The spirit of joy and fun of the Anglican faithful carry a momentum to match that of our exuberant Bishop who has weathered the drought and sadness of his depressed Diocese. We all can count our blessings, no matter what our personal landscape and environment present to us. Change is inevitable. We can patiently hang in there, knowing we are sustained by the Joy of the Lord, and trusting in God who turns our mourning into gladness.

Our Bishop dances to the liturgy and its hymns and songs. We witnessed that at the Lakes Resort during our Mission Conference as well as at last year's Synod.

I felt the same joy at the celebrations of the sesquicentenary of St Thomas Balhannah last September, and at my final service at St Marks Woodside on 28<sup>th</sup> February this year. I felt like dancing for joy but instead reserved the feeling for the full enjoyment of the dinner, refreshments and fellowship with friends.

Have a look at Charlie Day and me with the bottles of local red and white wines in the photo. Together we expressed the joy of ministry and fellowship. Charlie crowned me that afternoon and caused me to feel like the guests at the wedding Jesus attended in Cana of Galilee.

Jesus commenced his ministry with joy (John 2). I did too, so long ago. Jesus completed his earthly ministry with love for his own. Two of his disciples on the road to Emmaus vocalised the love they felt for Jesus, soon to ascend to His Father.

*"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, opening the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24)*

I completed my full time ministry with the joy and love of knowing Jesus in Word and Sacraments. That joy and love also included knowing those with whom I have shared ministry, especially in the parishes of Strathalbyn and Onkaparinga Valley. My heart too, burned having shared the Lord's Word with them.

So catch the "spirit of change" in the Diocese. Celebrate what is coming up in a spirit of love and joy for your fellow parishioners, your Diocese and Bishop. In Isaiah (56) we read

*"Come ... let us get wine;  
let us fill ourselves with strong drink  
and tomorrow will be like today ....  
great beyond measure."*

Ministry called me to be joyful in the Lord. The wine is only a human foretaste of the goodness of His eternal Love. Let us all bless Him with the help of a joyful Diocese!



*"Come ... let us get wine;  
let us fill ourselves with strong drink and tomorrow will be  
like today .... great beyond measure."*

# The Murray Progress

*By any measure, The Progress was a success.*

For some time now, Diocesan Council (DC) has been wrestling with the vexed question of how to provide adequately for the future of The Murray.

Church attendances are declining in many places; and so, too, are rural populations.

Ensuring that we minister to older members of the Church family across the Diocese, as well as reaching out to new people, is a significant challenge which requires careful consideration and proper resourcing.

Last November Diocesan Council agreed to inform its decision-making by conducting a series of conversations about The Murray in parishes and pastoral districts across the Diocese.

Those conversations became known as The Murray Progress.

DC members Anna Stanley and Mark Porter had the pleasure of travelling around the Diocese with Bishop John, speaking at 16 different locations.

The format of each presentation was the same: the same commentary, followed by an open forum at which attendees were encouraged to articulate their hopes and fears, and put forward ideas to help DC in its deliberations.

Each presentation ended with comments from Bishop John and a devotion reflecting on the meaning of Jonathan Clarke's *The Way of Life* and Anton Rublev's *The Hospitality of Abraham*.

By any measure, The Progress was a success.

464 people attended one or more of the presentations which took place over two-and-a-half weeks in late April/early May 2016.



Anna and Mark's record of the 16 conversations is expected to be considered at a DC meeting after this year's May Synod.

While nothing should detract from the completeness and integrity of those conversations, a possible framework for strategic planning in the Diocese does emerge from the record.

Three key areas in that framework are:

1. Identity: Our relationship with Jesus
2. Community: How we relate to other people in the life of the Spirit
3. Place: Where we love, serve and worship God.



*Come, talk, walk with us.*

*We should seek not so much to pray  
but to become prayer... (St Francis)*

# House of Hospitality

Our House of Hospitality was 'officially' opened when Bishop John came to bless the House and licence Margaret (Margo) Holt at a special service on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm. The service began in Christchurch, Strathalbyn, with worship, singing, the licensing of Margo and an improvised discussion between the Bishop and Margo about the vision for the House of Hospitality. Bishop John and the people also prayed over Margo and committed the ministry to the Lord. The community then walked down to the Rectory House and celebrated the Eucharist together followed by a time of fellowship. Br David McAvenna TSSF led the singing and also shared some of his own songs of worship during the Blessing and the Eucharist. The Bishop also blessed an icon of the Franciscan Cross of San Damiano which was written by Sarah Dridan especially for the House.

There is a continual cycle of prayer at the Rectory House of Hospitality and anyone is welcome to join with us in one of the daily prayer times. Morning Prayer is 8am and Evening Prayer 5pm. There are regular people who come to say Evening Prayer 2 or 3 times a week and it is always a great blessing to pray together even if there are only two of us! There is a great sense of joy and Jesus' presence with us as we pray together and intercede daily for the diocese, our community and the needs of those around us.

If you would like us to pray regularly for anyone or anything happening in your church, in your community or your own life then please send your prayer requests through to us. Names



are not necessary unless you are happy to give them to us.

There have already been a couple of people come to stay here at the House for retreat and be part of the daily office of prayer. Please pray for those who come to retreat and spend quiet time with the Lord here that He will draw them close to his heart and bless them as they seek His face.

Anyone is welcome to come and spend quiet time either for a day or for a few days. There is also a house in Milang which can be used for retreats. Please contact us for more information or to book.

*Quiet days* with meditation, intercession and Bible reflection will be offered regularly and this information will be sent out to the Parishes with a regular newsletter.

The House of Hospitality is also a place where people can come to sit, chat, drink tea/coffee or have some breakfast, potter in the garden, do a

jigsaw, play music, join in the prayers or not, or just be...;

**Holy Eucharist** will be celebrated by Bishop John or Fr Peter Carlsson at the House on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11am.

The Southern Area of the Third Order of St Francis (TSSF South Australian Region) is also gathered around the Rectory House in Strath so anyone who is interested in Franciscan Spirituality or indeed anything Franciscan is welcome to come to those meetings! The meetings generally will be bimonthly. Contact the House if you would like more information.

May the Lord show us the way in all we undertake, and please pray for us to listen and follow with humility, love and joy...

*Pax et bonum (peace and good),  
Marg (Margo) TSSF*

**HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY – 7 EAST TERRACE, STRATHALBYN.  
DIOCESE OF THE MURRAY.**

**Website:** [strathalbyngnanglicans.org.au/Rectory house community](http://strathalbyngnanglicans.org.au/Rectory%20house%20community)

**Facebook:** *Diocesan House of Hospitality; Pastoral District of Strathalbyn/Rectory house community.*

**Email:** [hospitalityhouse@murray.anglican.org](mailto:hospitalityhouse@murray.anglican.org)

# Yankalilla and Delamere

## International Nurses and Mother's Day Service

The organizing committee led by Gail Filsell did an amazing job in preparing the displays in the sanctuary at Delamere on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Many of the congregation (and those they invited) came in their nurses' garments (Active & Retired). To top it off we also included the "Mothers Day" theme as well as both require sacrifice and comforting touch. For the ladies present they were given a wooden heart with a chocolate inside (made by the Men's shed in Yankalilla). Various nurses' equipment was also displayed in the sanctuary and round the church.

A true Aussie innovation was included for the taking up of the collection which was undertaken using a bed pan. How more Aussie can you get?

## Harvest Festival

Yankalilla excelled themselves with a twist on the concept of what our "harvest" is.

The sanctuary was decked out with bales of hay and a couple of scarecrows made by the Rapid Bay School to give atmosphere, and a baker made sheaves of hay out of bread dough.

A number of people come to this service in the clothes (or brought equipment used) of their profession. Harvest is not just about food, but how we harvest the gifts God has given us as well. Parishioners brought non perishable items to add to the parish larder to assist people in need and the perishable items brought are to be made into soup and frozen.



# Recital at Christies Beach

St Francis of Assisi Church at Christies Beach hosted a unique musical event on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>, as part of the 2016 South Australia's History Festival. The recital featured the historic Speechly and Ingram Pipe Organ, formerly in the Hindmarsh Congregational Church in 1889 and installed at St Francis in 1989. It also featured instrumental and vocal items. More than 200 people attended the recital which consisted of sacred and secular items and included organ works by Bach, Handel and Purcel, piano works by Bach and Debussy, and choral works by Mozart, Bach and Pottle.

Priest, Fr Dirk van Dissel said St Francis has a unique role in the southern area; because of it has frequently been the venue for musical events and community celebrations.

"This has enabled the people of the south to enjoy fine music for which they would otherwise have to travel to Adelaide. Its choir is the only



traditional church choir in our area. Applications to join the choir are welcome".

One of those attending the recital, Linda Edwards said it was fantastic.

"The mix of choral work, instrumentals, soloists, and of course the organ, was really well selected and executed."

"There were too many highlights to name them all, but I particularly liked

the soloist Greg John, and Christine with the choir in Panis Angelicus" she said.

"Congratulations to all involved, it's sure to become an annual event now."

For anyone interested in becoming part of the choir, contact Sue Russell, the Choir Director on 0437 713 873 or email [poddlepress@hotmail.com](mailto:poddlepress@hotmail.com).

# Combined Anglican Schools Worship

There are twelve Anglican schools in the Province of South Australia, two of which are in the Diocese of The Murray: Woodcroft College and Investigator College. The schools' chaplains meet once a term as a group and they help to create an annual opportunity for all of the Anglican schools to combine for one worship service each year.

On 25 May at noon, all schools sent a total of 500 students plus their chaplains and principals to St Peter's Cathedral, North Adelaide for a service which was based on "Hope." Woodcroft College was represented by sixteen Year 5 House Captains, four Year 9 Captains, Miss Wood, Mrs Sheidow, Mr Porter, Fr Peter Simmons and myself. We had the privilege of sitting in the gallery with a "bird's eye" view of the action below.

Middle School Captain, Ethan Blaiklock (9MH) carried the Cross that started the procession of school banners and clergy. The Archbishop of Adelaide and the Bishop of The Murray were both present. Ethan was one of five students who prepared 100 words of Hope to be presented to the congregation. Ethan presented his words of hope for the environment:

In Genesis chapter 1 it is written how God created all life on Earth and it was good. God gave to humanity the task of looking after and caring for creation on Day 6. That gives us hope that we can do this responsibly. To me, hope for the environment means everybody thinking globally and acting locally. When I ride my bike around my neighbourhood I have noticed in the last few years more houses with solar panels on the roof. This gives me hope because it means that less people are relying on fossil fuels for their electricity which is helping the environment.

Other student leaders from other schools spoke about hope in regards to Leadership, Service, Faith and Education. Archbishop Jeffrey Driver addressed the congregation on his interpretation of Hope with reference to his recent visit to Bor in Sudan. He spoke



about the sadness resulting from recent violence and the mass grave close to the Cathedral but he drew hope from the vibrant worship happening inside the cathedral when 2000 people lifted their hearts, voices and spirits in praise, song, dance and worship. Hope was found through their worship as the people could see things for what they are and what they might be. The Gospel reading, John 20: 11-18, spoke of Mary's hope being reborn when the risen Christ called her by name outside his tomb. Knowing there was a future of hope, Mary ran to tell the disciples, "I have seen the Lord." The Archbishop, who retires later this year, was thanked for his work and leadership by students from Trinity College and Walford Anglican School for Girls and he in turn blessed and thanked the Chaplains for their work in South Australia's Anglican schools.

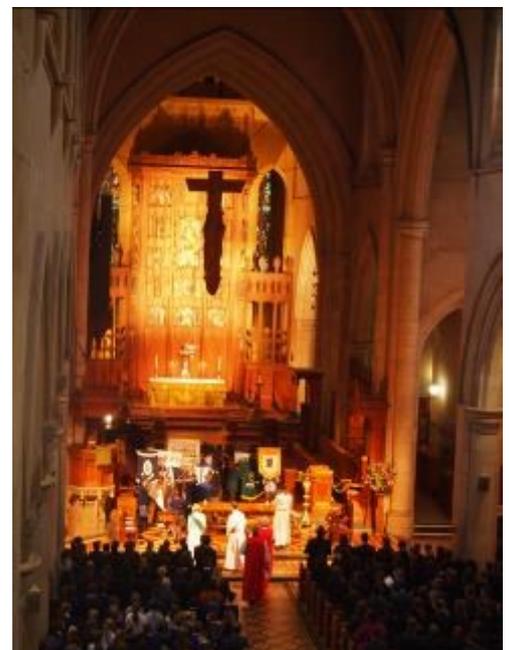
The prayers included the blessing and sprinkling of water led by the Senior Chaplain for Anglican Schools, Rev'd Dr Theo McCall and the final prayer, led by Bishop John summarised hope in and through Faith:

Gracious God,

We thank you that you have brought us from darkness to light, from sadness to joy and from despair to hope. May streams of living water flow from our

hearts, that we may bring life to others through our compassion, our love and our calm strength. May we live each day as a prayer, so that others may see us being friends to the lonely, the hungry, the destitute and the broken, and so discover their own courage. This we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Fr Andrew Forder  
Chaplain, Woodcroft College*



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at the Editor's discretion.*

### **Diocesan Council Newsletter**

Want to know what is  
happening in DC?

After each meeting, the Registrar  
will compile a report which  
is sent to each parish and  
pastoral district council.

If you would like an electronic  
copy, please email Donna on  
registry@murray.anglican.org

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### **Website**

<http://www.murray.anglican.org/>

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